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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : F16B 13/06, 17/00, E04B 2/82		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/47819
			(43) International Publication Date: 23 September 1999 (23.09.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/AU99/00185		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(22) International Filing Date: 18 March 1999 (18.03.99)			
(30) Priority Data: PP 2477 18 March 1998 (18.03.98) AU			
(71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: RUDDUCK, Dickory (AU/AU); 81 Castle Circuit, Seaford, NSW 2093 (AU).			
(74) Agents: MOORE CHRYSILIOU, Kerry et al.; Chrysillou Moore Martin, CMC Centre, 143 Sydney Road, Fairlight, Sydney, NSW 2094 (AU).		Published With international search report.	

(54) Title: FIXING AND RELEASE SYSTEMS

(57) Abstract

A connecting means adapted to fix or release a first element (4) and a second element (5) includes a locking pin (1) which is moveable by remote activation means between a locked position, in which leg (8) expands wall (9) into recess (10), and an unlocked position. The remote activation means may be magnetic, electro-magnetic or any other suitable means. A method of fixing or releasing first and second elements by remote activation means is also disclosed. The invention further provides a first element having first means (166) adapted to cooperate with second means (165) on a second element to facilitate connection of the first and second elements. A method of manufacturing the first element includes the steps of depositing discrete amounts of settable material on a surface of the first element and inverting the element to permit the material to set under the influence of gravity. A method of reducing the spacing between first and second elements by remote activation means is also disclosed.

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